

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Storage/HH/IJC/Superior/index.shtml>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAKE SUPERIOR OUTFLOW CONDITIONS

The International Lake Superior Board of Control, under the authority granted to it by the International Joint Commission, has set the Lake Superior outflow to 1,780 cubic meters per second (m^3/s) (62.9 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of April. This is the outflow recommended by the regulation plan for the month of April and is an increase from the March outflow of 1,670 m^3/s (59.0 tcfs).

The April outflow will be released by discharging about 1,674 m^3/s (59.1 tcfs) through the three hydropower plants and passing most of the remaining flow through the control structure at the head of the St. Marys rapids. The gate setting of the control structure will be maintained at the existing setting equivalent to one-half gate open (four gates open 25 cm, or about 10 inches each). There will be no change to the setting of Gate #1 that supplies the Fishery Remedial Works.

The March water supply to Lake Superior was above average for the month. The water supply to Lakes Michigan-Huron was below its March average. This past month the level of Lake Superior rose by a couple of centimeters. Usually Lake Superior declines slightly in March. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 19 cm (7 inches) below its long-term average beginning of April level and about 3 cm (1 inch) below the level recorded last year. The level of Lake Superior is now 14 cm (6 inches) below its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron rose by 4 cm (2 inches) this past month, the usual amount for March. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is about 59 cm (23 inches) below its long-term average beginning of April level, and is now about 23 cm (9 inches) below the level recorded last year. Lakes Michigan-Huron's level is now 23 cm (9 inches) below its chart datum level, but is still 20 cm (8 inches) above its record low beginning-of-April level. The Board continues to monitor conditions both on Lake Superior and downstream and will advise the International Joint Commission accordingly on those conditions.

Colonel Mark A. Roncoli, Commander, Chicago District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is the Alternate United States Board Member. Mr. Carr McLeod is the Board Member for Canada.

For further information please contact Carl Woodruff as indicated above.

The Internet homepage at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/> provides access to additional information.